

# King County Parks **Your** **Big Backyard**

**King County  
Parks and Recreation Division**



**2007**

**First Quarter Report**

Parks Omnibus Ordinance Report  
to the King County Council  
January - March 2007

we're at work so you can play

## Highlights of the First Quarter

- ❖ First quarter business revenues are slightly lower than the same period last year. 2006 was a particularly strong year for entrepreneurial revenues. At this point, 2007 is anticipated to be strong as well. The bulk of user fees and entrepreneurial revenues will be received in the second and third quarters of the year.
- ❖ Revenues from Marymoor Park are up over 18% in the first quarter compared to 2006, due to substantial use of the artificial turf soccer fields that opened at the end of 2006. Marymoor Park continues to be a valued regional asset, demonstrated by numerous volunteer efforts to clean up storm damage that occurred this past winter.
- ❖ The Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center continues to serve as a key regional venue for major swimming events, such as the PAC 10 collegiate championships. The recent addition of ADA/family dressing room, water spraying play structures and pirate-themed design features in the natatorium is anticipated to boost attendance and revenue from the facility's recreation programs.
- ❖ The King County Fairgrounds transferred to the City of Enumclaw at the end of 2006, and the division continues to meet with the city to ensure a smooth transition of ownership. However, the Parks and Recreation Division has a commitment to operate the Fair which is currently scheduled for July 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. The theme for this year's fair is "*Dance to the Moo-sic*".
- ❖ The division continues to expand entrepreneurial efforts, building on past successes and pursuing new ideas. A major focus during the first quarter has been the donation from Starbucks of \$500,000 for the '*Ultimate Park Makeover*' at White Center Heights Park in White Center, which is anticipated to be received and recorded in the second quarter. Pursuing major grants and donations is anticipated to become an increasingly important element of the division's entrepreneurial strategy.

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## Parks and Recreation Division 2007 First Quarter Report

### Introduction

The Omnibus Parks Ordinance (Ordinance 14509), adopted November 18, 2002, by the King County Council, included this reporting requirement for the Parks and Recreation Division:

“The division shall provide a written report to the council, filed with the clerk of the council, at least four times each year, by March 15, June 15, September 15, and December 15, and more frequently as directed by the council by motion, regarding the execution of the division’s duties and responsibilities as established in K.C.C. 2.16.045.E. Following transmittal of each written report, the division shall also make an oral presentation to the council. The written reports and oral presentations shall include, but shall not be limited to, information as to the division’s efforts in:

- A. Meeting revenue targets under section 7 of this ordinance;*
- B. Implementing entrepreneurial strategies including advertising, leasing and concession agreements;*
- C. Pursuing gifts, bequests and donations, including the value and sources of gifts, bequests and donations received;*
- D. Developing agreements with other organizations to provide recreation services;*
- E. Transferring parks and recreation assets within incorporated areas or potential annexation areas to cities; and*
- F. Community outreach and involvement.”*

This is our fifth year of reporting on the accomplishments of the division. Quarterly reports were transmitted for each quarter in 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and now, for 2007. This year is also the fourth year of the Parks Levy fund, approved by the voters in 2003 with collections to run from January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2007.

We have structured the quarterly report to correspond to the ordinance requirements. We welcome your ideas and input. Please do not hesitate to contact Kevin Brown or Tom Koney of the King County Parks and Recreation Division at 206-296-8687 if you have any questions or suggestions.

## Revenues - Summary

### Parks & Recreation Division Revenues

Total Adopted Revenues, 2007	\$22,097,958
Total Actual Revenues, 2006	\$22,120,229

### First Quarter - Business Revenues Only

Levy funds, interest earnings, interfund transfers and similar revenues that are not within the control of the division are excluded from this total.

### Actual Business Revenues<sup>1</sup> (includes user fees & enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues)

January 1 - March 31, 2007	\$943,747
January 1 - March 31, 2006	\$1,007,417

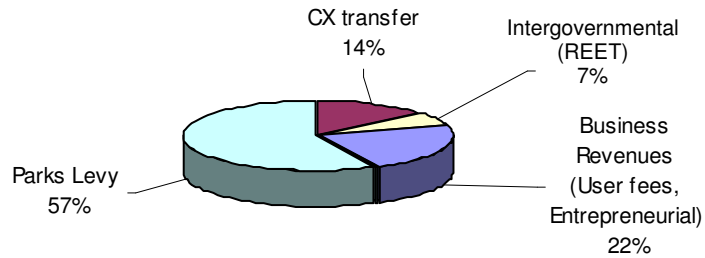
First quarter total business revenues in 2007 were lower than the same period in 2006. However, 2006 reflected very high enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues, including \$245,000 for the Trails Wayfinding Kiosk partnership with Starbucks received in the first quarter of 2007. The bulk of business revenues are anticipated to be received in the second and third quarters, so first quarter comparisons should be made with caution.

Even with a reduced asset base (due to transfer of facilities), business revenues still comprise about 22% of the total division's revenue budget (2007), the same percentage as in 2002, at the beginning of the Business Plan (see charts, following page). The ensuing period has seen transfers of facilities, mostly pools, which generated over \$2,000,000 in revenues. The business revenue forecast on the remaining assets has risen from a total of about \$2.3 million in 2002 to over \$4.9 million in the 2007 adopted budget.

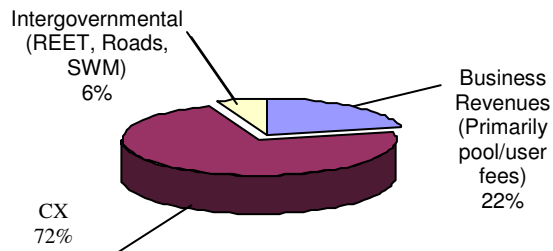
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<sup>1</sup> Based on ARMS financial reports.

### 2007 Adopted Revenues - \$22M



### 2002 Adopted Revenues - \$26M



## Expenditures – Summary

### Parks and Recreation Division Expenditures

2007 Adopted Expenditures	\$23,084,309
2007 Revised Expenditures <sup>3</sup>	\$23,198,876
2006 Adopted Expenditures	\$20,888,426
2006 Revised Expenditures <sup>4</sup>	\$22,212,171
2006 Actual Expenditures <sup>2</sup>	\$21,155,007

### First Quarter 2007 - Actual Expenditures

January 1 - March 31, 2007	\$4,811,483
January 1 - March 31, 2006	\$4,275,848

With 25% of the year having passed, expenditures were 21% of the division's annual expenditure budget. This expenditure pattern is in line with historic business trends.

In early years of the levy period (2004-2005), the division underexpended its budget by around 5%. This underexpenditure reflected the division's deliberate attempt to be frugal, given the uncertain nature of business revenues and the need to build a prudent fund balance. In January 2004, the division began with a fund balance of zero, but the fund balance in the levy fund now achieves the financial planning target. The division continues to look for ways to increase efficiencies and control expenditures, but intends to more fully expend its appropriated budget on maintaining and operating parks and facilities, now that it has achieved its target fund balance.

<sup>2</sup>2006 actuals are per 14<sup>th</sup> month ARMS financial reports.

<sup>3</sup>Reflects 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2007 Omnibus Ordinance.

<sup>4</sup>Reflects council ordinance through 2006

## Revenues - Implementing the Business Plan Key Business Units, First Quarter Review

### Marymoor Park



### Marymoor Business Unit

	2007 Q1	2006 Q1	Change (\$)	Change (%)
<b>Traditional</b>				
Rev - facilities	\$ 2,928	\$ 2,429	\$ 499	21%
Rev - fields	\$ 141,058	\$ 19,497	\$ 121,561	623%
<b>Non-Traditional</b>				
Rev - parking	\$102,983	\$ 86,938	\$ 16,045	18%
Rev - campground		\$ 147	\$ (147)	-100%
Rev - concerts			\$ -	
Rev - concert ticket sales			\$ -	
Rev - Subway	\$ 680	\$ -	\$ 680	
Rev - Pet Garden	\$ 1,700	\$ 750	\$ 950	127%
Sponsors/concessions	\$ 10,384	\$ 4,923	\$ 5,461	111%
MSN WiFi			\$ -	
Cirque			\$ -	
Naming rights**		\$ 105,000	\$ (105,000)	-100%
<b>Revenues - Total (rounded)</b>	\$ 259,700	\$ 219,700	\$ 40,000	18%
<b>Expenditures* (rounded)</b>	\$ 357,900	\$ 272,700	\$ 85,200	31%

\* Expenditures include only direct costs, and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4<sup>th</sup> quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported along with annual revenues, and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

\*\* Revenue from Group Health for naming rights for the Velodrome is expected to be received in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

### First Quarter Highlights include:

- ❖ Marymoor revenues overall are up 18% over the same period in 2006, due to fees collected from the new artificial turf soccer fields that opened in the Fall of 2006.

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This increase is even more significant given that \$115,000 of revenue from naming rights for the Group Health Velodrome is anticipated to be realized later in 2007 rather than the first quarter, as it was in 2006.

- ❖ Expenditures are slightly higher, primarily due to staffing additions to provide increased customer service and revenue generation support.
- ❖ In spite of the cool, wet winter, parking revenues are up 18% in the first quarter of 2007. This is likely due to the increased use of soccer fields during the winter months, along with Marymoor staff initiatives to improve parking fee payment compliance and increased seasonal pass sales.
- ❖ A contribution from the Redmond Rotary of \$5,000 toward ballfield advertising, collected in the first quarter, helped boost the sponsor/concession revenues by over 100%. This was part of a package put together in 2006 by the Redmond Rotary to donate and install four automated external defibrillators in Marymoor Park for use by the general public.
- ❖ In early January, over 30 people came to Marymoor Park to participate in a volunteer project aimed specifically at cleaning up debris left over from the November and December storms. Over 20 truck loads of debris were removed. Two weeks later, a local church group planted 15 new trees in the historic area to replace trees downed or damaged during the storms.

## Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center



### Aquatic Center Business Unit

	2007 Q1	2006 Q1	Change (\$)	Change(%)
<b>Traditional</b>				
Rev - facilities	\$ 185,453	\$ 180,384	\$ 5,069	3%
Rev - courses	\$ 19,081	\$ 30,096	\$ (11,015)	-37%
Rev - drop in	\$ 6,996	\$ 13,083	\$ (6,087)	-47%
Rev - Conference Ctr	\$ 8,008	\$ 4,157	\$ 3,851	93%
<b>Non-Traditional</b>				
Rev - Subway	\$ 5,035	\$ 7,005	\$ (1,970)	-28%
Rev - concessions	\$ 304	\$ 270	\$ 34	13%
<b>Revenues - Total (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 224,900</b>	<b>\$ 235,000</b>	<b>\$ (10,100)</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>Expenditures* (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 394,900</b>	<b>\$ 341,600</b>	<b>\$ 53,300</b>	<b>16%</b>

\* Expenditures include only direct costs, and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4<sup>th</sup> quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported along with annual revenues, and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

## First Quarter Highlights include:

- ❖ Overall, revenues from the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center are down about 4% compared to the first quarter of 2006. This may be due to the pool being unavailable for drop-ins and courses in January and February during construction. Subway restaurant concession revenue also dropped due to lower attendance because of the closure.
- ❖ A major Capitol Improvement Project was 90% completed in the first quarter to 1) dramatically improve the recreation experience of facility users, and 2) increase attendance and revenue from the facility's recreation programs. March program attendance increased by 73% in drop-in swims and 100% in birthday party rentals as compared to March 2006. The project included:
  - Addition of fun water and deck features in the recreation pool.
  - Improved lighting for safety.
  - Addition of an ADA/family dressing room off the recreation pool deck.
  - Expansion of the dressing areas in the main locker rooms, including more counter space.
  - Replacement of lockers with units requiring less maintenance and adjustable user fees.
- ❖ Energy and resource conservation projects at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center were featured this quarter in the Northwest Building Operation Certification (BOC) newsletter. BOC is a nationally recognized training program designed to educate facility owners and operators in the latest practices of efficient operation and maintenance of building systems. A copy of the article was posted on the national webpage of BOC:  
[http://www.theboc.info/pdf/BOC\\_WKCAC\\_Article\\_3\\_07.pdf](http://www.theboc.info/pdf/BOC_WKCAC_Article_3_07.pdf). These efforts mark the division's efforts to identify and implement operational efficiencies where possible.
- ❖ A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued and awarded to add a full-color reader board along Campus Drive to better advertise Subway services, Jazzercise programs, Banquet Hall rentals and Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center events and programs. More than 20,000 vehicles pass by the King County Aquatic Center daily.
- ❖ The Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center continues to attract major events which provide substantial economic impacts to the region. Two PAC-10 collegiate championships were held at the facility during the first quarter: Men's and Women's Diving and Men's Swimming. One of the most successful Speedo Champions events was held in March with 890 athletes participating from 11 states – 18 records fell at the event. Eight other major events were held in the first quarter.

## The King County Fairgrounds at Enumclaw



### Fair/Fairgrounds Business Unit

	2007 Q1	2006 Q1	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Rev - Facilities		\$ 10,786		-
Rev - Annual Fair	\$ 41,905	\$ 41,879	\$ 26	0%
<b>Revenues - Total (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 41,900</b>	<b>\$ 52,700</b>	<b>\$ (10,800)</b>	<b>-20%</b>
<b>Expenditures* (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 12,200</b>	<b>\$ 83,400</b>	<b>\$ (71,200)</b>	<b>-85%</b>
	2007 Q1	2006 Q1	Change (\$)	Change (%)
<b>Rev - Facilities</b>	-	\$ 10,786	\$(10,786)	-100%
<b>Rev - Annual Fair</b>	\$ 41,905	\$ 41,879	\$ 26	0%
<b>Revenues - Total (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 41,900</b>	<b>\$ 52,700</b>	<b>\$ (10,800)</b>	<b>-20%</b>
<b>Expenditures* (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 12,200</b>	<b>\$ 83,400</b>	<b>\$ (71,200)</b>	<b>-85%</b>

\* Expenditures include only direct costs in the organizational work unit, and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4<sup>th</sup> quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported along with annual revenues, and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

### First Quarter Highlights include:

- ❖ The King County Fairgrounds transferred to the City of Enumclaw at the end of 2006. Costs and revenues in 2007 will therefore reflect only the county's continued operation of the King County Fair, not the Fairgrounds, which will affect comparisons with past years.
- ❖ The King County Fair staff meets regularly with the City of Enumclaw to ensure a smooth transition of the change of ownership of the Fairgrounds, now the Enumclaw Expo Center.
- ❖ Planning for the 2007 Fair, which takes place July 18th – 22nd, is in full swing. The theme is "*Dance to the Moo-sic*" and focuses on family, community and good old fashioned fun. The Fair Board continues to provide insight on the 4H and

agricultural component of the Fair. Davis Amusement Cascadia has been selected as the new carnival for the 2007 Fair and will bring a fresh new look along with some great promotional ideas.

## Recreation, Ballfields and Facilities



### Ballfields and Recreation Business Unit

	2007 Q1	2006 Q1	Change (\$)	Change (%)
<b>Traditional</b>				
Rev - Ballfields	\$ 20,084	\$ 28,099	\$ (8,015)	-29%
Rev - Facilities	\$ 19,595	\$ 22,994	\$ (3,399)	-15%
<b>Non-Traditional</b>				
Rev - RV Camping	\$ -	\$ 813	\$ (813)	-100%
<b>Revenues - Total (rounded)</b>	\$ 39,700	\$ 51,900	\$ (12,200)	-24%

\* Annual expenditure information on facilities and ballfields will be discussed in the 4th quarter report.

### First Quarter Highlights Include:

- ❖ Overall, revenues are down from the same period last year. Several ballfields were closed during part of the first quarter due to storm damage and/or annual field maintenance. Use is anticipated to pick up and revenue should recover in the 2nd quarter.
- ❖ Tolt MacDonald Campground facility was closed this year during the 1st quarter due to storm damage. The facility has since re-opened.

## Swimming Pools



### Swimming Pools (Other than the Aquatic Center)

Includes Evergreen, Renton, Vashon and Cottage Lake Facilities

	2007 Q1	2006 Q1	Change (\$)	Change (%)
<b>Traditional</b>				
Rev - Pool Fees	\$ 98,344	\$ 106,436	\$ (8,092)	-8%
Rev – Concessions	\$ 4,098	\$ 233	\$ 3,865	1659%
<b>Revenues - Total (rounded)</b>	<b>\$102,400</b>	<b>\$ 106,700</b>	<b>\$ (4,300)</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>Expenditures* (rounded)</b>	<b>\$ 229,300</b>	<b>\$ 192,600</b>	<b>\$ 36,700</b>	<b>19%</b>

\* Expenditures include only direct costs, and do not include maintenance labor loaned in from other work units ("loan-in labor"). In the year-end (4<sup>th</sup> quarter) report, annual expenditures will be reported along with annual revenues, and compared against the cost-recovery targets established in Ordinance 14509.

### First Quarter Highlights Include:

- ❖ Overall, revenues are down about 4% over the same period last year. Both Evergreen and Renton Pools were closed for several days in January due to snow and ice. Neither pool suffered any storm related damage. Attendance and revenue are on the upswing after a slow start due to winter weather.
- ❖ The Evergreen Pool has increased attendance and revenue from rentals and private lessons compared to 2006.
- ❖ The Washington Kayak Club conducted a six-hour roll clinic for kayak enthusiasts over three weekends, which was very well attended.
- ❖ The Renton Pool was rented 43 times for birthday parties and 5 float-in movies were conducted during the first quarter. In addition, Multiple Sclerosis, Children's Therapy Group and the Shadow Seals Swim Team for the disabled have all been regular users of the Renton Pool during the first quarter.

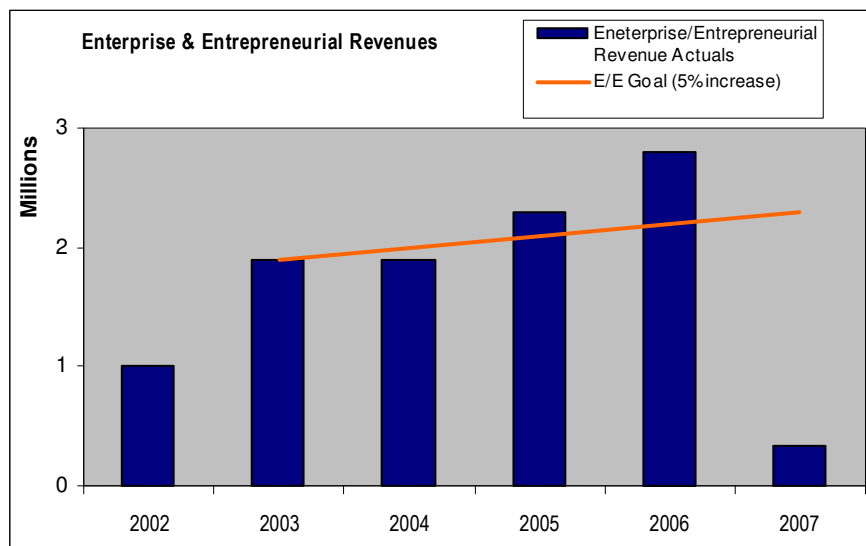


## Implementing Entrepreneurial Strategies New Ways of Raising Revenues

In 2006 the division exceeded the goal of a five percent (5%) increase in annual enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues. The outlook for enterprise and entrepreneurial revenue in 2007 looks equally bright.

In the first quarter of 2007 the division received about \$330,000 in enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues. In contrast, first quarter 2006 had received \$740,000, largely due to early payments equaling \$350,000 from Starbucks and Group Health for biking and trail initiatives, respectively. Both Group Health and Starbucks have decided to continue an investment in 2007, although not until the second or third quarter.

User fee revenue is significantly higher in the first quarter of 2007 at \$530,000 – due to the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) investment converting to the more playable lighted synthetic turf fields at Marymoor.



### 2007 First Quarter Highlights Include:

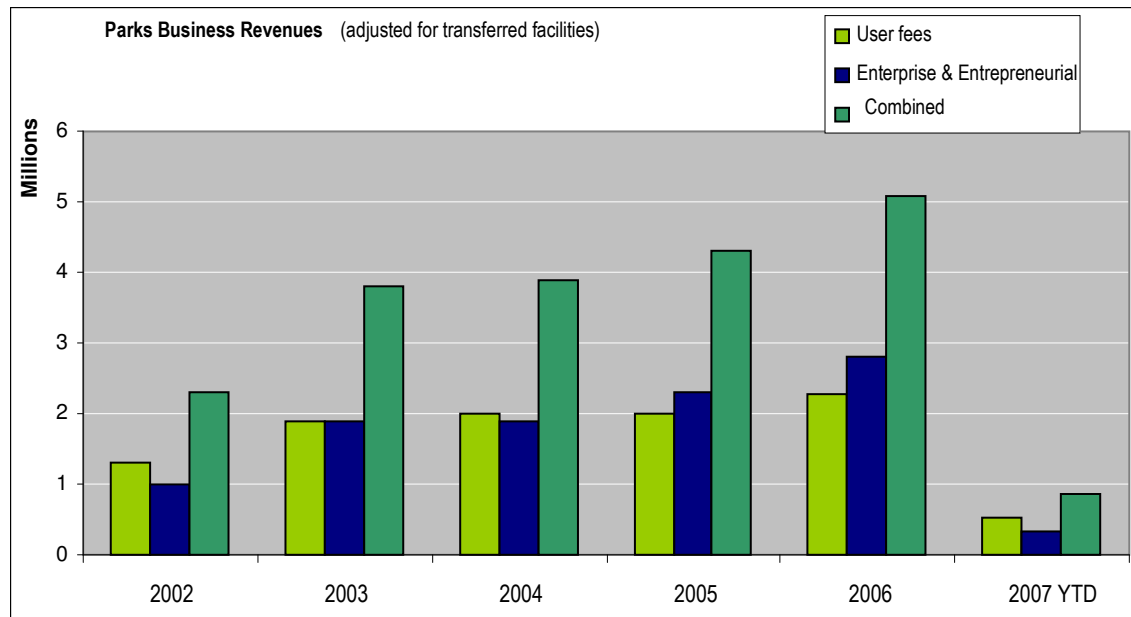
- Marymoor Park's four new artificial turf fields have yielded substantially higher revenues because they require little to no maintenance and are playable year-round.



- The \$550,000 gift for Starbucks 'Ultimate Park Makeover' at White Center Heights Park planning and community meetings led to a final design selection in March. The park will be built June 8-15 by community volunteers, Starbucks employees and division crews in a 7 day reality-TV style event. Planning and permitting of this fast-track public/private initiative has been successful largely due to the cross-departmental support between the Parks and Recreation Division, the Department of Development and Environmental Services Department, the Facilities Management Division, the Office of Management and Budget, Parks-CIP, Solid Waste Division, the King County Executive Office, the Department of Natural Resources and Parks Department's Public Affairs and the Water and Land Division.
- Parks Staff worked with Group Health on the promotion and design for the 2007 Group Health Bike Expo held in February at Magnuson Park in Seattle. Our joint booth was awarded "Best in Show". \$105,000 is expected to be received in second quarter of 2007 for our Group Health partnership for biking activities in King County.
- Sale of gravel in the first quarter came to \$25,000, compared to \$24,000 in 2006.
- Parking revenue at Marymoor Park was about \$103,000, compared to \$87,000 in 2006.
- Regional trails maps outlining the 175 miles of trails were designed and will be distributed in Starbucks retail stores in King, Pierce and Snohomish Counties during the second quarter.

As the Department of Natural Resources and Parks develops strategies for long-term funding options, including the August renewal levy, the division will maximize enterprise/entrepreneurial revenue along with exploring other strategies and efficiencies to minimize the tax subsidy needed for active recreation facilities. The division will continue to foster and develop corporate, non-profit and community-based partnerships in an effort to increase revenues and leverage Revenue Enhancement and Opportunity Fund capital dollars.

Overall business revenues include both user fee revenues and enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues. The division defines user fees as more traditional activities such as pool fees, field rentals, and recreational programs, and is generated according to what the market will bear. Enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues include a myriad of other non-traditional activities, ranging from corporate sponsorships, gifts, parking, and facility rentals, including concert series and Cirque du Soleil, and are generated in relation to the cultivation efforts by the entrepreneurial staff.



Enterprise/entrepreneurial revenues occur throughout the park system and several initiatives have been identified already in individual business unit descriptions.

The division continues to aggressively pursue mutually beneficial agreements through the Partnership for Parks initiative which generates revenue through the implementation of the following opportunities:

1. Maximize revenue from existing assets
2. Corporate Partnerships, Gifts
3. Aggressively Pursue Gifts, Bequests and Legacy Donations
4. Real Estate Opportunities – Continue to evaluate long-term revenue opportunities on King County lands to benefit the Parks and Recreation Division

## **Pursuing Gifts, Bequests, Donations & Grants**

The Parks and Recreation Division is increasingly pursuing gifts, bequests, and donations as part of its entrepreneurial strategy. For that reason, such activity will now be reported as a subheading of entrepreneurial activities.

### **2007 First Quarter Highlights Include:**

- ❖ The Parks and Recreation Division received a \$500 reimbursement from Risk Management for warning and mineshaft hazard signs for Cougar Mountain and Grandridge Park's mineshafts.
- ❖ The division received a donation of approximately 300 pounds of seed and 300 pounds of fertilizer to improve soccer fields and park aesthetics.
- ❖ The division applied for a \$24,000 King Conservation District WRIA 7 grant for re-vegetation on the Preston Mill site along the Raging River.
- ❖ The division continues to perform work relating to homeland security and disaster prevention, through countywide Homeland Security grants received and administered through the Office of Emergency Management.

## Agreements with Other Organizations Community Partnership & Grants Program (CPG)

The Community Partnership and Grants program (CPG) continues to develop partnerships for new facilities and amenities throughout King County. There are currently over 20 partnership projects either already implemented or in development that represent \$7.4 million in CPG grants and capital grant investments such as the new technology center at Lakewood Park in White Center and the new synthetic ballfields and park in Preston. Once completed, these projects will add over \$30 million in leveraged community investment and will result in no new tax-funded operations and maintenance costs due to the supplemental maintenance and programming commitments made by the community partners. Groundbreakings and announcements will occur throughout 2007. Below are some of the ongoing CPG project highlights:



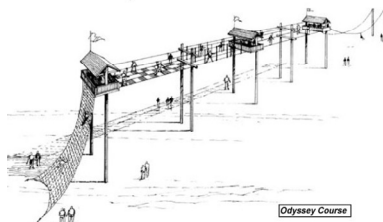
New Boathouse at Marymoor Park



New Community Center at Lakewood Park



New Synthetic Ballfields and Park in Preston



New Challenge Course at Cottage Lake



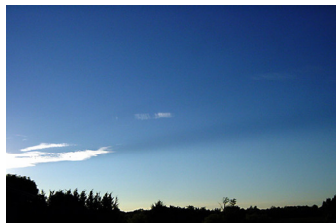
New Whitewater Takeout Park on the Mid Fork



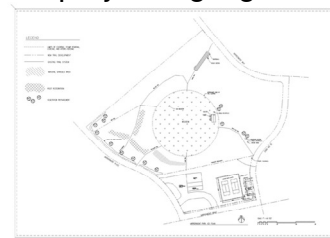
New 100 acre Mountainbike Skills Park and Riding Area at Duthie Hill



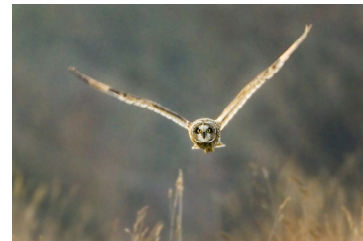
40 Acre RC Flying Facility at Hobart



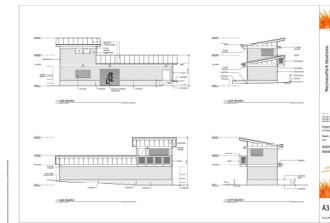
Astronomy Site at Hobart



New Park in Mirrormont



Audubon Trail / Kiosks at Marymoor Park



New Velodrome Race Building at Marymoor Park

For more details on the  
CPG Program visit:

[www.metrokc.gov/parks/cpg/](http://www.metrokc.gov/parks/cpg/)

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## **Transferring Parks and Recreation Assets**

Transferring local parks to cities and focusing on rural and regional programs is a key element of the Parks Business Plan. Consistent with the Parks Business Plan, the transfer of parks and pools within the urban growth area is being discussed as part of a broader county annexation strategy. However, the division will also seek to transfer properties in advance of actual annexations whenever possible.

Effective the first of the year, King County transferred the King County Fairgrounds, Sportsman Park, Farmers Park, as well as two parcels across the street from the Fairgrounds to the City of Enumclaw. In addition, Meerwood, Sammamish Cove and Timberlake Parks were transferred to the City of Issaquah during the first quarter of 2007. The division is actively exploring options with a non-profit entity to transfer the remaining two UGA pools (Renton and Evergreen), however transfers are unlikely in 2007.

The division has made significant progress transferring properties since the development of the business plan. Due to Washington State legislative changes, the division anticipates swifter annexations and park transfers of the few eligible remaining sites. When the Business Plan was developed in 2002, the Parks and Recreation Division had local pools and local parks that cost over \$7 million to operate inside the urban growth area boundary.

### **The parks and facilities that have been transferred include:**

Auburn Pool	City of Auburn
Auburndale Two Park	City of Auburn
Beaver Lake Park	City of Sammamish
Bridle Crest Trail (Redmond)	City of Redmond
Coal Creek Park	City of Bellevue
Des Moines Creek Park	City of SeaTac
East Auburn Athletic Fields	City of Auburn
Eastgate Park	City of Bellevue
Enumclaw Golf Course	City of Enumclaw
Enumclaw Pool	City of Enumclaw
Farmers Park	City of Enumclaw
Federal Way Pool	City of Federal Way
Fort Dent Park	City of Tukwila
Grandview Park	City of SeaTac
Jenkins Creek Park	City of Covington
Juanita Beach Park	City of Kirkland
Kent Pool	City of Kent
King County Fairgrounds	City of Enumclaw
Lake Burien School Site	City of Burien
Lake Heights Park	City of Bellevue
Lake Sawyer Park	City of Black Diamond
Lake Wilderness Park	City of Maple Valley
Lea Hill Park	City of Auburn

Lewis Creek Natural Area	City of Issaquah
Luther Burbank Park	City of Mercer Island
Manor Hill Park	City of Bellevue
Meerwood Park	City of Issaquah
Mercer Island Pool	City of Mercer Island & Northwest Center
Mt. Rainier Pool	Cities of Des Moines & Normandy Park, & Highline School District
Northshore Pool	Northwest Center
OO Denny Park	City of Seattle
Redmond Pool	Northwest Center
Salmon Creek Park	City of Burien
Salmon Creek Waterway	City of Burien
Sammamish Cove	City of Issaquah
Shamrock Park	Si View Metropolitan Park District
Si View Park	Si View Metropolitan Park District
Si View Pool	Si View Metropolitan Park District
Slough House Park	City of Redmond
South Central Pool	City of Tukwila
South Park Farm	City of Seattle
Sportsman's Park	City of Enumclaw
Tahoma Pool	City of Covington
Three Forks Natural Area	City of Snoqualmie
Timberlake Park	City of Issaquah

**The division continues to work with cities and parks districts on the transfer of the remaining UGA facilities, including:**

Bridle Crest Trail	City of Bellevue
West Hill Park	City of Bothell
Juanita Triangle	Finn Hill Park and Recreation District
Juanita Heights	Finn Hill Park and Recreation District
Klahanie	City of Issaquah
Lewis Creek Natural Area	City of Issaquah
Swamp Creek	City of Kenmore
Inglewood Wetlands	City of Kenmore
Tollgate Farm – middle site	City of North Bend
Maplewood Park	City of Renton
May Creek Park	City of Renton
Sunset Playfield	City of SeaTac

**In addition to the transfer agreements and efforts identified above, the county has long-term lease agreements for operations of the following facilities:**

Gold Greek Lodge	Operated by Boys & Girls Club of King County
West Hill Community Center	Operated by Boys & Girls Club of King County

## Community Outreach and Involvement

Over 1,840 volunteers have given over 9,640 hours of labor to help King County parks. Several clean up projects took place in the first quarter of 2007 to deal with the aftermath of the November 2006 and January 2007 winter storms. The efforts of volunteer park and trail users demonstrated their commitment by working hard on storm damage clean up, in some cases even before they had finished cleaning up their own properties. These activities included: clearing storm debris; picking up litter; walking trails to observe storm damage to report to park staff; and trail restoration work to keep trails useable and safe.

During the first quarter of 2007, King County Parks and Recreation Division benefited from volunteer labor provided through 126 volunteer events. A sample of groups that participated in these events include: Earth Corps; Summit Church; Tahoma Outdoor Academy; Carnation Elementary School; Overlake School; Eastside Catholic; North West School; Friends of Cedar River; Support Our Dog Area (SODA); East Lake Washington Audubon Society; and the Maple Valley Rotary Club. In addition to assisting the division in recovering from storm damage, volunteer activities included: installing culverts in trails; removing noxious weeds; building over 4700 feet of finished trails; performing restoration projects; maintaining trails; planting trees; general park clean up; potting plants and performing other necessary tasks to help keep the Greenhouse productive; and assisting with teen recreation programs.



## Reconnecting People to Their Parks: Outreach and Reconnecting Strategy

### [www.parksfeedback.com](http://www.parksfeedback.com)

On December 1, 2005, the division launched a pilot web-based feedback tool for several parks, trails, ballfields and pools. This customer feedback tool has also helped the division to identify areas of concern in the system, such as vandalism, and immediately respond to citizens' comments. This consistent feedback loop is one tool being used to connect to our citizens and user groups. Park users appreciate the division's efforts to promptly reply to their concerns and every effort is made to resolve the issue.

The pilot program ended and the division expanded this program system-wide in the second quarter of 2006. The website and survey was developed and is hosted on [www.parksfeedback.com](http://www.parksfeedback.com). The division will track user trends and comments, and use this data to help develop long-term funding and system priorities.

The feedback system does not provide a statistical gauge for constituent satisfaction. However, it is a powerful tool that provides us the ability to communicate promptly and directly with citizens who have feedback for our system. This tool also provides a prioritized short, medium and long-term list of maintenance issues and capital improvement needs. Some examples of comments received in the first quarter of 2007 are listed below.

*"The portion of the trail that goes through Lake Forest Park is horrible, tree ruts are so big I fear there's going to be people injured from tripping over them or from cyclists hitting them. Would appreciate more lighting through the north end of the trail. Overall I enjoy and use the trail very much, but hate that LFP section of the trail--I consider it dangerous. Also hate the stop signs for the cyclists, I think they're stupid."*

*"Thank you. We walked the Burke Gilman/Sammamish River trail today and we're very happy that the graffiti was removed!"*

*"We liked the climbing structure."*

*"Please repair the bumps and cracks in the trail. They are causing flat tires and parts to fall off my bike!"*

*"I want to thank you for your quick response. Jill has already contact LFP and was very appreciative of the customer service she received from King County Park. Please be sure and pass along to the trail crew that we appreciate their response and effort on this request to remove a downed tree across Burke Gillman Trail fence."*

*"My Visit to King County Parks was wonderful. I look forward to returning to Washington State in the near future. Best Wishes—L. Ryan ---Ireland."*